

Department of Theology

PRESIDENT'S REPORT : 1966-1967

The Department still suffers from a shortage of manpower. The average freshman class ceiling was over fifty (50) students - and this excluded two outsized groups in Science (255 students) and Commerce (175 students). Although results have been reasonable, the Department feels very strongly that the freshmen year is not the proper place for serious theological studies. This we feel is due to (a) the lack of academic preparation of students coming from high schools; (b) their great numbers, entailing a lack of individual attention; (c) an alienation caused in part by the nature of their previous religious education.

The Department, on March 8th of last year, moved that theology should be taught only in the upper classes. This motion was carried in a subsequent Arts Faculty meeting. Owing, however, to the difficulties such changes would cause to other departments, we withdrew our motion, and on a temporary basis worked out an alternative solution. This was to make Theology 101 a pre-theological course - better fitted to the concrete needs, situation, and capacity of our freshmen.

The Department is not at all happy about the recently introduced structural changes in the curriculum. We feel that these changes were made too late in the academic year, thus holding up necessary preparation for the coming year; we feel, in fact, that the whole issue of curriculum, with regard at least to Theology, has not been handled in a proper manner. The Department also resents strongly the uncalled for and improper interference of other faculty members in the personal affairs of the Department.

We feel regret that such things should take up our time when the post-conciliar era presents such a real challenge for us to re-think our methods

and structures in order to deal more effectively with the new situation in the Church - i.e., a Diaspora in which the Christian exists in the midst of a pluralistic society. The extent of extra-curricular activities of the individual members of the Department are a witness to the lively participation of the Department in the shaping of the future of our faith.

Personnel changes:

We are glad to welcome back to Loyola Mr. Stanley Wesolowsky who will receive his doctorate from Princeton this year. Also, Mr. Joseph Hofbeck, who on grants from our college finishes his doctorate at the Institute Catholique in Paris. Both will join the faculty this September. Fr. Bela Somfai, S.J., at the present working for his doctorate at St. Paul's University, Ottawa, also joins our faculty for the coming year. Mr. P. Jones, who has been in the department since January on a special contract as assistant to the Chairman, joins the faculty as a Lecturer. For the first time our department starts to work with graduate assistants; Fr. D. Kenedy, Mr. J. Apczynski and Mr. R. Rust are the candidates. Mr. A. Dechene leaves the department in order to pursue his doctoral studies at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. Promotions in the department were: Fr. Henkey has been nominated Full Professor and Chairman, Fr. G. O'Brien, S.J., Associate Professor.

Rev. Charles H. Henkey: on November 14, 1965 received from his Bishop in Hungary the title of Archeepiscopal Counsellor and the red sash.

In June, 1966, visited the University of Detroit, Marquette University, University of Notre Dame, The Catholic University of America, and Fordham University. Taught a graduate course on Dogmatic Synthesis at Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y. from June 23 to August 15.

Attended the national meeting of the Catholic Theological Society in Providence, R.I. from June 20-23. Was invited to be chairman of one of the sectional meetings at the International Congress on the Theology of the renewal of the Church, August 20-25, 1967 in Toronto.

Lectures:

On "Death of God theology" at the Marist College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y., August 8, 1966.

On "Modern trends in Christology" at the yearly convention of the Hungarian Protestant Ministers Association in Ligonier, Pa., September 6, 1966.

On "Freedom and AughORITY" at the Symposium on Christian Education at St. Joseph's Teachers College, October, 15, 1966.

On "Death of God theology" at Loyola Faculty Association, October 21, 1966.

On "The Pill" at a panel discussion sponsored by the Montreal Medical Association in McGill Medical Center, October 17, 1966.

Gave a retreat to the Hungarian Knights of Malta in St. Bonaventure Retreat House, Patterson, N.J., December 9-11, 1966.

On "The Church and the Modern World" in the Town of Mount Royal United Church, January 23, 1967.

On "Teilhard de Chardin", a series of four lectures at the Ecumenical Centre, Montreal, February 7, 14, 21, 28, 1967.

On "The philosophical problem of Contraception" to the Philosophy Club of Loyola, March 7, 1967.

On "The morality of contraception" at the panel discussion sponsored by the Loyola Arts Society, March 8, 1967.

On "Church and the modern world", at an ecumenical meeting of theologians, McGill University, Divinity Hall. April 12, 1967.

Gave a Retreat sponsored by the Canadian and Hungarian Knights of Malta at

Villa St. Martin, March 31 - April 2, 1967.

Publications:

Abstract of: A. Voegtle, Das Schicksal des Messiaskindes
NTA 10(1966) 331/32

of: E. Lohse, Deus Dixit, NTA 10(1966) 311/12

of: H. Riesenfeld, Zu den Johanneischen hina-Saetzen
NTA 11(1967) 73/73

of: K. Berger, Abraham in den paulinischen Hauptbriefen
NTA 11(1967) 224.

Review on: T.F. Torrance, Theology in Reconstruction
CBQ 28(1966) 376/77

on: Rahner-Vorgrimmler, Theological Dictionary
CBQ 28(1966) 368/69

on: U. Brose, Der Kolosserbrief des Pelagius
CBQ 29(1967) 135/36

on: H. Kueng, Freedom Today. Theol. Stud. 28(1967) 192/93

on: G. Crespy, De la science a la theologie
Theol. Stud. 28(1967) 183/84.

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Fr. Elmer O'Brien, S.J.: The Third Annual Contemporary Theology Institute, whose theme was "The Future of Theology", was held June 27 - July 1, 1966. The chief participants were Prof. Harvey Cox of Harvard University, Prof. Hans Küng of the University of Tübingen, and Prof. Martin E. Marty, of the University of Chicago.

The Fourth Annual Contemporary Theology Institute, on "New Ways in Theological Ethics", will be held June 26 - 30, 1967. The chief participants will be Prof. John C. Bennett (Union Theological Seminary), Prof. James M. Gustafson (Yale University), Prof. Bernard Häring (Rome), and Prof. Robert O. Johann (Fordham University).

Father O'Brien was invited to be a member of the Executive Committee of The Frank L. Weil Institute for Studies in Religion and the Humanities, Cincinnati.

He delivered an address on "Man and His World" at the Twenty-sixth Annual Temple Emanu-El Institute on Judaism.

He was engaged in a panel discussion on the question of celibacy on the CBC programme, "Contact".

He was interviewed on the CBC programme, "Christian Frontiers", regarding the 1966 session of the Contemporary Theology Institute.

Publications:

"English Culture and Spirituality", in Spirituality in the Secular City ("Concilium" Vol. XIX; Glen Rock, N.J.: Paulist Press, London: Burns & Oates, 1966).

Towards a Convergence of Traditions ("Contemporary Theology", Vol. II; New York: Herder and Herder) is to be published in September, 1967.
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Fr. G. O'Brien, S.J.: participated in seminar on "Biblical Theology and Vatican II's Constitution on Revelation, Regis College, Toronto, under the direction of Fr. Louis Alonso-Schokel, S.J., Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, in July, 1966. In November, '66, he attended Convention in Chicago of the Religious Education Association and participated in the Seminar, entitled, "The New Morality and the New Breed". Also, participation in regular meetings of Jesuit Committee of Higher Studies. Gave lecture, entitled, "Politics and the Monarchy in the books of Samuel" to Bible Study Group, Our Lady of Fatima Parish, St. Laurent, P.Q. Fourth year, regular Chaplain St. Ignatius Parish, C.F.M. Also, Archdiocesan official censor - Bible Center for "I Discover the Bible".

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Fr. Walter Bedard, O.F.M.: was one of the participants in the 1966 study

tour of biblical sites, directed by the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, and led by Fr. Leopold Sabourin, S.J. of the Institute's branch in Jerusalem, Israel. Countries visited were: Egypt, including the Sinai Desert, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel, Turkey and Greece.

Fr. Bedard also attended the meeting of theology teachers in Jesuit colleges held at Fordham University, New York, in December, 1966. He has contributed (in the press) surveys of theological literature covering years 1964-1965-1966 for Contemporary Theology edited by Fr. Elmer O'Brien, S.J.

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Fr. W. Browne, S.J.: taught two courses in Sacred Liturgy for the Faculty of Theology at Saint Paul University, Ottawa.

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Mr. John Collins: Work on thesis, "The Christmas-Epiphan Cycle: A Pastoral Study of the Liturgy", will be completed this spring. He will finish his work for an M.A. in Religious Education by taking comprehensive examinations at the end of July at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Mr. Collins intends to return to school for his doctorate after another year at Loyola. Present possibilities are University of Ottawa, Notre Dame, Marquette, or Fordham.

Mr. Collins represented the Department of Theology and Loyola College at an "International Symposium on Marriage in the Age of Vatican II" held in Washington, D.C., November 8-10, 1966. The Symposium was sponsored by The Catholic University of America. He gave a lecture at the Mount Royal United Church on January 9, 1967 on "The Nature of the Church" in the first in a series of discussions in ecumenism.

Publications: "Christmas Liturgy Explored", The Challenge, December 25, 1967.

Mr. P. Garnet: Taught Theology 215 Introduction to the Bible at Evening Division Summer Session, 1966.

Attended inaugural meetings of the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion at Sherbrooke (University of Sherbrooke) in June, 1966.

Attended Contemporary Theology Institute, Loyola College, June 27-July 1st, 1966.

Passed S.T.M., Qualifying Year, Faculty of Graduate Studies, McGill University.

Followed three seminars (full-time study) for S.T.M., 1st Year at Faculty of Graduate Studies, McGill University.

Has been allowed to by-pass S.T.M. and proceed to Ph.D. II in September, 1967.

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Mr. P. Jones: Attended course given by M. le Chanoine René Laurentin given at the Grand Séminaire de Montréal from February 20th to March 4th, 1967.

The subject of the course was "La Question Mariale Apres Le Concile".

Attended the Annual Institute of Judaism held at the Temple Emmanu-El in Montreal on Monday, February 6th, 1967. The topic under discussion was: "Man and his wisdom".

Represented Loyola at a panel discussion sponsored by the Rotary Club of Montreal at the Skyline Hotel on 13th February, 1967. Topic: "World Understanding through the Eyes of Religion". Co-panelists included representatives of the Jewish, Orthodox, and Protestant communities.

Addressed Lasalle theological Club on the topic: "The Church in the year Two-thousand" on March 18th, 1967.

Took part as theological adviser in a project of the St. Jean Bréboeuf parish. This project was a LITTLE COUNCIL. It was an attempt to enlist lay concern

and co-operation on current issues affecting the parish. Mr. Jones was directing the Commission on the Church in the Modern World, which comprised twelve lay people from different occupations.

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Mr. F. Sawyer: course taken at University of Montreal, entitled "Secularization". Exam was completed with success. Credit course towards 4th Year (Ph.D.) Level.

Participated in the "Symposium on Christian Education" held at St. Joseph's Teachers College, October 13-15, 1966.

Gave two lectures to the Anglican students at McGill University. Topics: "From Aquinas to Vatican II" and "Ferment in the Church Today". Given at Canterbury House, January 29th, 1967 and February 5th, 1967, respectively. Attended "Institute on Judaism" February 6th, 1967 held at Temple Emmanu-El, Montreal. Also, attended the Convention of "Society of Catholic College Teachers of Sacred Doctrine" held in Pittsburg, Penn. March 26-28, 1967.

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Fr. E. Schoenmaeckers, S.J.: contributed an article to America, Oct. 8 115 (1966) 414. Delivered an address and took part in a discussion in Mount Royal United Church, January 11th, 1967.

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Mr. M. Spicer: Attended the following conventions: The Catholic Theological Society of America, Providence, R.I., June 20-23, 1966; Symposium on Christian Education, St. Joseph's Teachers College, Montreal, Oct. 11-13, 1966; The American Philosophical Association, Philadelphia, December 26-28, 1966; a Symposium on "The Church in the Ecumenical Movement" with Professors McLelland and Peaston of McGill and Fr. Baum of St. Michael's, presiding, January, 1967.

His translation of H. DeLavalette on "The Future of Belief" will be published shortly in Continuum.

Mr. Spicer has finished course work and language exams for his S.T.M. at McGill University and is presently working on his thesis, The Place of the Imagination in Kierkegaard's Account of Human Experience, with Prof. McKinnon. He hopes to have this finished for spring or fall, 1968.

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Mr. A.J. Webster: addressed the Society of Biblical Literature of the Westmount Baptist Church on "The Concepts of Grace and Truth in the Prophets of the Old Testament".

He has been engaged in the Ph.D. academic preparation of the Thesis in the field of Biblical Theology.

Mr. Webster has contributed surveys of theological literature covering 1964-65-66 "On the Church" for Contemporary Theology, edited by Fr. Elmer O'Brien, S.J.